

Amendments to the specification

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph.

[0021] FIG. 1 shows a schematic of the production of a viral vector (Ad5E1PBAL) according to the teachings herein, which is capable of preventing and/or treating Acne Vulgaris. Also shown are SEQ ID NO: 1 (top) and SEQ ID NO: 2 (bottom).

Please replace paragraph [0064] with the following amended paragraph.

[0064] A schematic diagram for the construction of the Ad5E1PBAL vector is shown in FIG. 1. To rescue the *Propionibacterium acnes* lipase sequences into a translatable minigene cassette, an oligonucleotide was designed containing 5' flanking restriction enzymes sites for Bam HI and Hind III, followed subsequently by a sequence coding for the consensus optimal ribosomal translation initiation site, and bases incorporating the first 30 nucleotides of the coding sequence for *P. acnes* lipase gene. The following is the sequence of the 5' oligonucleotide: GCGGATTC-CAAGCTTGCCTGCCG-CCATGAAGATCAACGCAC-GATTCGCCGTC (SEQ ID NO: 3). An additional oligonucleotide containing bases complementary to the 3' end of the *P. acnes* lipase gene flanked by residues containing stop codons to provide a translational termination signal and a restriction site Xho I was created. The sequence of the 3' oligonucleotide is: CGCCCGCTCGAGCTA-TCATGCAGCATCCGTGGTG-GATACTGGCAG (SEQ ID NO: 2). additional nucleotides were incorporated in the design of the 5' and 3'

oligonucleotides to accommodate for restriction enzyme cleavage activity at the blunt ends of DNA. PCR reactions were carried out using the 5' and 3' designed oligonucleotides with genomic DNA isolated from *P. acnes* bacteria.